

AMENDMENT

Serial Number: 10/743,960

Filing Date: 12/22/2003

Title: Hydro-Mechanical Threshing Rotor Control System for an Agricultural Combine

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Dkt: 15211**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please substitute the claim set below for the currently pending claim set. No claims have been intentionally changed. To the extent the claims listed below make amendments to the claims, such amendments are unintentional and are made in error.

1. (Previously presented) A cost-effective, manufacturable skid steer vehicle having a longitudinally extending axis, a left side, a right side, a front and a rear, the vehicle comprising:
 - a chassis comprising a chain tank extending along the longitudinally extending axis, the chain tank including a left side and a right side;
 - at least one left-side motor, the left-side motor being fixed to the left side of the chain tank;
 - at least one right-side motor, the right-side motor being fixed to the right side of the chain tank;
 - at least four vehicle suspensions, the suspensions being disposed at the left front, the right front, the left rear and the right rear of the vehicle, wherein each suspension includes a control arm pivotally coupled to the chassis to pivot with respect to the chassis about a longitudinally extending axis, a spring for supporting the vehicle, a strut coupled to the control arm, and a wheel coupled to the strut to be steered; and
 - at least one steering actuator configured to simultaneously steer the front wheels to the left and the rear wheels to the right, and to simultaneously steer the front wheels to the right and the rear wheels to the left,
 - wherein the left-side motor is drivingly coupled via a left drive member to the two wheels of the left front and the left rear suspensions and the right-side motor is drivingly coupled via a right drive member to the two wheels of the right front and the right rear suspensions such that the left drive member remains in the same orientation relative to the left-side motor and the right drive member remains in the same orientation relative to the right-side motor even as the control arms pivot with respect to the chassis.

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2. (Original) The skid steer vehicle of claim 1, wherein the control arms pivot about horizontal axes.
 3. (Previously presented) The skid steer vehicle of claim 1, wherein the control arm of each suspension is coupled to the chassis of the vehicle at two points, including a first point disposed forward of the strut of each suspension and a second point disposed rearward of the strut of each suspension.
 4. (Previously presented) The skid steer vehicle of claim 1, the vehicle further comprising first chain links operatively connected to the at least one left-side motor and the wheels of the left front and the left rear suspensions.
 5. (Previously presented) The skid steer vehicle of claim 4, the vehicle further comprising second chain links operatively connected to the at least one right-side motor and the wheels of the right front and the right rear suspensions.
 6. (Previously presented) The skid steer vehicle of claim 1, wherein the control arms of the four suspensions extend laterally away from the vehicle, the two left side suspension control arms extending leftwardly and laterally away from the left side of the chassis, and the two right side control arms extending rightwardly and laterally away from the right side of the chassis.
 7. (Previously presented) The skid steer vehicle of claim 1, wherein the chassis includes a generally vertically and longitudinally extending left side wall, a generally vertically and horizontally extending right side wall and the left front and left rear control arms are coupled to the left sidewall and the right front and right rear control arms are coupled to the right sidewall.
 8. (Previously presented) The skid steer vehicle of claim 1, further comprising an engine and a plurality of hydraulic pumps coupled to and driven by the engine, the plurality of pumps including a left side drive pump, a right side drive pump and a steering pump.